

1 1. **(Cancelled)**

1 2. **(Cancelled)**

1 3. **(Cancelled)**

1 4. **(Cancelled)**

1 5. **(Amended)** The ~~mast stand of Claim 4~~ mast support of Claim 24 wherein  
2 the distance between said upper coupling member and said corresponding  
3 lower leg coupling member is greater than the length of said corresponding  
4 leg/bracket coupling member.

1 6. **(Amended)** The ~~mast stand of Claim 5~~ mast support of Claim 5 wherein the  
2 length of said corresponding leg/bracket coupling member is greater than the  
3 length of the corresponding guide or slot.

1 7. **(Amended)** The ~~mast stand of Claim 4~~ mast support of Claim 24 further  
2 including an end cap selectively mounted to the end portion of said mast  
3 support to support and retain the lower portion of the lower most mast  
4 section therein when said mast stand and the multi-section mast are  
5 assembled and deployed.

1 8. **(Amended)** The ~~mast stand of Claim 4~~ mast support of Claim 24 wherein  
2 each said leg member comprises a plurality of leg member sections disposed  
3 end to end such that the distance between said mast support and the ground  
4 or other support surface is greater than the length of the lower mast sections

5 to allow assembling of the multi-section mast from below said mast support  
6 by inserting successive mast sections into said substantially cylindrical  
7 elongated mast receiving channel.

1 9. **(Cancelled)**

1 10. **(Cancelled)**

1 11. **(Cancelled)**

1 12. **(Cancelled)**

1 13. **(Amended)** The ~~mast stand of Claim 12~~ mast support of Claim 25 wherein  
2 the distance between said upper coupling member and said corresponding  
3 lower leg coupling member is greater than the length of said corresponding  
4 leg/bracket coupling member.

1 14. **(Amended)** The ~~mast stand of Claim 13~~ mast support of Claim 13 wherein  
2 the length of said corresponding leg/bracket coupling member is greater than  
3 the length of the corresponding guide or slot.

1 15. **(Amended)** The ~~mast stand of Claim 12~~ mast support of Claim 25 further  
2 including an end cap selectively mounted to the end portion of said mast  
3 support to support and retain the lower portion of the lower most mast  
4 section therein when said mast stand and the multi-section mast are  
5 assembled and deployed.

1 16. **(Amended)** The ~~mast stand of Claim 12~~ mast support of Claim 25 wherein  
2 each said leg member comprises a plurality of leg member sections disposed  
3 end to end such that the distance between said mast support and the ground  
4 or other support surface is greater than the length of the lower mast sections  
5 to allow erecting or assembling of the multi-section mast from below said  
6 mast support by inserting successive mast sections into said substantially  
7 cylindrical elongated mast receiving channel.

1 17. **(Amended)** The ~~mast stand of Claim 9~~ mast support of Claim 25 wherein  
2 said mast support comprises a sleeve having an elongated mast receiving  
3 channel formed therethrough to receive and support a portion of the multi-  
4 section mast therein.

1 18. **(Amended)** The ~~mast stand of Claim 17~~ mast support of Claim 17 wherein  
2 each said connect bracket comprises at least one bracket member extending  
3 outwardly from said sleeve to selectively receive a portion of a corresponding  
4 leg member therein when said mast stand is in the stored position.

1 19. **(Cancelled)**

1 20. **(Amended)** The ~~mast stand of Claim 19~~ mast support of Claim 26 wherein  
2 the distance between said upper coupling member and said corresponding  
3 lower leg coupling member is greater than the length of said corresponding  
4 leg/bracket coupling member.

- 1 21. **(Amended)** The ~~mast stand of Claim 20~~ mast support of Claim 20 wherein  
2 the length of said corresponding leg/bracket coupling member is greater than  
3 the length of the corresponding guide or slot.
- 1 22. **(Amended)** The ~~mast stand of Claim 18~~ mast support of Claim 26 further  
2 including an end cap selectively mounted to the end portion of said mast  
3 support to support and retain the lower portion of the lower most mast  
4 section therein when said mast stand and the multi-section mast are  
5 assembled and deployed.
- 1 23. **(Amended)** The ~~mast stand of Claim 22~~ mast support of Claim 22 wherein  
2 each said leg member comprises a plurality of leg member sections disposed  
3 end to end such that the distance between said mast support and the ground  
4 or other support surface is greater than the length of the lower mast sections  
5 to allow erecting or assembling of the multi-section mast from below said  
6 mast support by inserting successive mast sections into said substantially  
7 cylindrical elongated mast receiving channel.
- 1 24. **(New)** A mast support to support a multi-section mast comprising a  
2 mast support including an outer surface having a plurality of connector  
3 brackets extending outwardly from said outer surface thereof and a  
4 correspondingly plurality of support legs each pivotally coupled to the upper  
5 portion of said corresponding connector bracket and slidably coupled to the  
6 mid to lower portion of said corresponding connector bracket to permit said  
7 support legs to be selectively moved between a stored and deployed position

8 and to advance successive mast sections through said mast support from  
9 beneath or below said mast support wherein said mast support comprises a  
10 plurality of substantially flat outer surfaces corresponding to said plurality of  
11 connector brackets having an elongated mast receiving channel to receive and  
12 support a portion of the multi-section mast therein and each said connector  
13 bracket comprises a pair of substantially parallel spaced apart bracket  
14 members extending outwardly from a correspondingly substantially flat outer  
15 surface to cooperatively form a leg receiving channel therebetween to  
16 selectively receive a portion of a corresponding leg member therein when said  
17 mast stand is in the stored position and wherein each said bracket member  
18 comprises a substantially flat plate including a coplanar coupling protrusion on  
19 the upper end portion thereof having a coupling aperture formed  
20 therethrough to receive an upper coupling member to pivotally couple the  
21 upper portion of the corresponding leg member between the corresponding  
22 pair of substantially parallel spaced apart bracket members of the  
23 corresponding connector bracket and a guide or slot formed through said  
24 substantially flat plate to slidably receive a bracket coupling member  
25 therethrough connected to one end portion of a leg/bracket interconnecting  
26 member having the opposite end portion thereof pivotally coupled to a  
27 corresponding leg member by a lower leg coupling member in spaced  
28 relationship below the corresponding upper coupling member.

1 25. **(New)** A mast support to support a multi-section mast comprising a  
2 mast support having a plurality of connector brackets thereon and a

3 correspondingly plurality of support legs each pivotally coupled to the  
4 corresponding connector bracket and slidably coupled to the corresponding  
5 connector bracket to permit said support legs to be selectively moved  
6 between a stored and deployed position and to advance successive mast  
7 sections through said mast support from beneath or below said mast support  
8 wherein said mast support comprises a plurality of substantially flat outer  
9 surfaces corresponding to said plurality of connector brackets having an  
10 elongated mast receiving channel to receive and support a portion of the  
11 multi-section mast therein and each said connector bracket comprises a pair  
12 of substantially parallel spaced apart bracket members extending outwardly  
13 from a correspondingly substantially flat outer surface to cooperatively form a  
14 leg receiving channel therebetween to selectively receive a portion of a  
15 corresponding leg member therein when said mast stand is in the stored  
16 position and wherein each said bracket member including an upper end  
17 portion comprises a substantially flat plate including a coplanar coupling  
18 protrusion on said upper end portion thereof having a coupling aperture  
19 formed therethrough to receive an upper coupling member to pivotally couple  
20 the upper portion of the corresponding leg member between the  
21 corresponding pair of substantially parallel spaced apart bracket members of  
22 the corresponding connector bracket and a guide or slot formed through said  
23 substantially flat plate to slidably receive a bracket coupling member  
24 therethrough connected to one end portion of a leg/bracket interconnecting  
25 member having an opposite end portion thereof pivotally coupled to a

26 corresponding leg member by a lower leg coupling member in spaced  
27 relationship below the corresponding upper coupling member.

1 26. **(New)** A mast support to support a multi-section mast comprising a  
2 mast support having a plurality of connector brackets thereon and a  
3 correspondingly plurality of support legs each pivotally coupled to the  
4 corresponding connector bracket and slidably coupled to the corresponding  
5 connector bracket to permit said support legs to be selectively moved  
6 between a stored and deployed position and to advance successive mast  
7 sections through said mast support from beneath or below said mast support  
8 wherein said mast support comprises a sleeve having an elongated mast  
9 receiving channel formed therethrough to receive and support a portion of the  
10 multi-section mast therein and each said connector bracket comprises at least  
11 one bracket member extending outwardly from said sleeve to selectively  
12 receive a portion of a corresponding leg member therein when said mast  
13 stand is in the stored position and wherein each said bracket member  
14 comprises a plate including a coupling aperture formed therethrough to  
15 receive an upper coupling member to pivotally couple the upper portion of the  
16 corresponding leg member between the corresponding bracket member and a  
17 guide of slot formed through said plate to slidably receive a bracket coupling  
18 member therethrough connected to one end portion of a leg/bracket  
19 interconnecting member having the opposite end portion thereof pivotally  
20 coupled to a corresponding leg member by a lower leg coupling member in  
21 spaced relationship below the corresponding upper coupling member.

26 corresponding leg member by a lower leg coupling member in spaced  
27 relationship below the corresponding upper coupling member.

1 26. **(New)** A mast support to support a multi-section mast comprising a  
2 mast support having a plurality of connector brackets thereon and a  
3 correspondingly plurality of support legs each pivotally coupled to the  
4 corresponding connector bracket and slidably coupled to the corresponding  
5 connector bracket to permit said support legs to be selectively moved  
6 between a stored and deployed position and to advance successive mast  
7 sections through said mast support from beneath or below said mast support  
8 wherein said mast support comprises a sleeve having an elongated mast  
9 receiving channel formed therethrough to receive and support a portion of the  
10 multi-section mast therein and each said connector bracket comprises at least  
11 one bracket member extending outwardly from said sleeve to selectively  
12 receive a portion of a corresponding leg member therein when said mast  
13 stand is in the stored position and wherein each said bracket member  
14 comprises a plate including a coupling aperture formed therethrough to  
15 receive an upper coupling member to pivotally couple the upper portion of the  
16 corresponding leg member between the corresponding bracket member and a  
17 guide of slot formed through said plate to slidably receive a bracket coupling  
18 member therethrough connected to one end portion of a leg/bracket  
19 interconnecting member having the opposite end portion thereof pivotally  
20 coupled to a corresponding leg member by a lower leg coupling member in  
21 spaced relationship below the corresponding upper coupling member.